The Minute Book of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd 1871-1922

Transcribed and edited by Richard J. Mammana 2016-2020

Harper's Weekly illustration by Winslow Homer of the Sisterhood's St. Barnabas House on 304 Mulberry Street, April 18, 1874.

ORGANIZED WOMEN'S MINISTRY in the nineteenth-century Episcopal Church drew on two major streams of inspiration. One was the deaconess movement initiated by the German Lutheran Theodor Fliedner (1800-1864) in Kaiserswerth from 1833.[1] Deaconesses were set apart—not in contemporary language *ordained*—to celibate work in Christian education, nursing, prisons, childcare and many other forms of *diakonia*. The second stream was the emergence of women's religious orders in the Church of England, beginning with the Park Village Sisterhood in 1845.[2] Religious sisters worked in parishes, schools and hospitals, but took vows of varying initial duration much like the

[1] On Fliedner, see Catherine Winkworth, *The Life of Pastor Fliedner of Kaiserwerth* (London: Longmans, 1867). Fliedner's international fame in the English-speaking world came from work with his most famous pupil, Florence Nightingale.

[2] See especially Susan Mumm, *Stolen Daughters, Virgin Mothers: Anglican Sisterhoods in Victorian Britain* (London: Bloomsbury, 2001) but also Peter F. Anson, *The Call of the Cloister: Religious Communities and Kindred Bodies in the Anglican Communion* (London: Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, 1964).

vows of Roman Catholic nuns. Most lived in convents, wore habits, used the titles "Sister" and "Mother," and prayed an amplified Daily Office.

The two streams converge in New York during the episcopate of Horatio Potter (1802-1887, bishop 1854-1887) in the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd. The Sisterhood, absent almost entirely from narratives of women's ministry in the nineteenth century and from the historiography of the monastic movement in modern Anglicanism, was active from its formation in 1869 until the death of its last member in 1926.[3] It played a role as a forgotten and significant organization channeling the philanthropic activities of New York's Gilded Age elites into a careful focus on ministry to the poor. The Sisterhood's board of trustees and officers never failed to include men and women whose achievements in industry and education offered an indication of the seriousness with which prominent New Yorkers took the organization.

Between 1870 and 1899, the Sisterhood published annual reports detailing its work during the course of each year, its receipts of donations, and its statutes. During the years for which there are reported statistics, the work of the Sisterhood at St. Barnabas House in providing food and lodging for the burgeoning population of lower Manhattan is nothing short of extraordinary for a group of women never larger than twenty:

Year	**Meals**	**Lodgings**
1871	82,432	18,743
1872	75,585	18,206
1873	81,642	18,013
1875	106,865	20,548
1876	133,592	21,812
1877	172,515	21,528
1878	135,194	20,546
1879	111,302	16,778
1880	111,638	19,523
1881	116,850	21,186
1882	111,018	21,896
1883	105,318	20,662
1884	105,883	20,977
1885	101,811	20,960
1886	61,170	17,070

By 1872, the Sisterhood's work had expanded beyond St. Barnabas House to include regular duties on Ward's Island and at Bellevue Hospital, both of which would remain ongoing sites of ministry for the organization. A German-speaking sister was detailed specifically to work among German immigrants in hospitals and orphanages.

[3] A brief notice in Armentrout's *Episcopal Dictionary of the Church* says incorrectly "The Sisterhood went out of existence around 1902." (New York: Church Publishing, 2000), p. 486. The other references to the history of the Sisterhood are a seven-page 1965 pamphlet by Ruth Johnson entitled *Both Sisters and Deaconesses* (New York: no publisher) and a short article "The Sisters of the Good Shepherd," by William Hogue in *Holy Cross Magazine*, February, 1965

One member of the Sisterhood had been seconded to St. Paul's Orphanage in Concord, New Hampshire.

"Fresh Air" work had begun by 1871, when children were welcomed during the summer to northern New Jersey and upstate New York for respite from urban life—preceding by some six years the establishment of what is now the Fresh Air Fund.

The 1877 Annual Report noted that the Sisters had given away thirteen tons of coal to needy New Yorkers. They assumed charge of an orphanage attached to Christ Church, South Amboy, New Jersey.

Beginning in 1878, the Sisters undertook regular visits to the Mulberry Street House of Detention and the Essex Street Prison.

The Annual Report of 1879 notes the building of the House of the Good Shepherd at Asbury Park, New Jersey. This would become a primary site of ministry for the Sisterhood until 1917, when the school in Asbury Park was leased to Ruth Hall, a diocesan school of the Diocese of New Jersey. Ruth Hall purchased the building in 1921.[4]

Around the same period the annual reports begin to mention sumptuous Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners held by the Sisterhood for the indigent New Yorkers under their care. Donation receipts, headed by the Astor family, note large numbers of turkeys provided for the urban poor.

From 1880, a sister expanded the geographic reach of the order's ministry through her work at St. James' Church, Wilmington, North Carolina.

In 1881 the Sisters took charge of Christ Hospital, Jersey City as a new ministry.

They opened the House of the Good Shepherd at Asbury Park, New Jersey on June 22, 1882 to enable city children "three months of sea air and country pleasures."

In 1886, children were attending cooking classes, as a clothing dispensary, sewing circle, Bible study, and other regular activities continued to expand the reach of the Sisterhood in Lower Manhattan.

In 1887, the Sisters' work began to shift away from St. Barnabas House—where Sister Ellen had ministered since July of 1865. In accordance with a notice from the Protestant Episcopal City Mission, the Sisterhood withdrew from its ministry and continued its extensive ministry in hospitals and prisons, among the urban poor, in education and .

The 1888 Annual Report notes the death of the founder, Ellen Hulme, lauded with tributes at her funeral by the bishops of New York and Albany. She was buried in the churchyard at St. Mary's, Burlington, New Jersey.

By 1889, the Sisterhood had expanded still further to include work at the Hospital of the Good Shepherd in Nashville, Tennessee. In New York itself, the sisters were working in five parishes: Heavenly Rest, St. Ann's, St. Peter's, the Church of the Reconciliation, and St. Clement's—conducting mothers' groups, sewing circles, Bible studies, visiting the sick and continuing their ongoing work in hospitals, asylums, prisons, orphanages.

The Sisterhood had by this stage moved the headquarters of its work to a rented house near to the General Theological Seminary in Chelsea Square, and subsequent years of deliberations in the Minute Book focus on the purchase of a permanent home as a base for their Manhattan work. Parish work in New York continued, as did Fresh Air work in northern New Jersey at Asbury Park. Throughout this period, the Sisterhood continued its

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[4] Jack H. Newman, *St. Mary's Hall and Doane Academy* (Arcadia Publishing, 2012), p. 54.

staffing of St. James's Home and Day School in Wilmington, North Carolina, indicating a still further reach of its work.

In the early 1890s, the Sisterhood assumed charge of Buttercup Cottage in Wissahickon Heights, Philadelphia—a ministry of St. Martin in the Fields, Philadelphia established as "a summer home to working girls."[5] Buttercup Cottage long survived the Sisterhood, remaining in operation until the early 1950s, when its derelict buildings were sold.

From 1891, a used clothing distribution bureau emerges as one of the major ministries of the sisterhood, while their Manhattan parochial activities expand to the Church of Zion and St. Timothy.

The Reverend Thomas Gallaudet (1822-1902) was pastor of the Sisterhood from its formal organization until his death. Gallaudet, son of the pioneer deaf educator Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet (1787-1851), founded St. Ann's Church for Deaf Mutes, which opened formally in 1859 and would be host to many meetings of the Sisterhood's trustees.

SIX BECOME DEACONESSES[6]
Ceremony in Crypt of Cathedral—Former Sisters of Good Shepherd.

> Six women were admitted into the Order of Deaconesses of the Protestant Episcopal Church by Bishop Potter in the crypt of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine yesterday morning. Four of the women were from the Order of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd, and two were new candidates.
>
> The four from the Sisters of the Good Shepherd were Sisters Julia, Helena, Isabelle, and Ruth. They were known in secular life as Julia C. Price, Helena A. Haubold,[7] Isabelle J. Perry, and Ruth M. Buffington, respectively. The two new candidates were Mrs. Louisa H. Gates[8] and Miss Ella M. Taylor.[9]
>
> The Order of the Good Shepherd, which became extinct with the admission of the four women into the Order of Deaconesses yesterday, was founded twenty-five years ago.

There is a sense in which the Minute Book is a formulaic, internal, corporate document, chronicling the slow demise of a small church organization. To read it in this

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[5] See David R. Contosta, A Brief History of "Buttercup Cottage," May 2014, accessed November 1, 2016: http://stmartinec.org/images/uploads/Buttercup_Cottage_Final.pdf and *A Philadelphia Family: The Houstons and Woodwards of Chestnut Hill* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1992), p. 33.

[6] *The New York Times*, April 26, 1900, p. 2.

[7] Helena Aurora Haubold dated only 1900 "the work of the care of the poor and sick and the religious training of the young."

[8] Testimonial for setting apart dated August 1, 1899 for "visiting the sick and poor." October 1899 memorandum by bishop: "12 years resident Visitor at Sisterhood of Good Shepherd, 8 years visitor Incarnation Parish, 2 years with Rector of St. Peter's, now at house of Sisterhood 419 W. 19th St. Wishes to go with Sisters to St. Faith's Home this month." Transferred to the Diocese of Central New York on November 11, 1901.

[9] (died 1935) was born in St. Kitts. She served St. Ann's Brooklyn and at Grace Church, Brooklyn, studied at St. Faith's from 1905 to 1907.

way is to miss the richness of a text narrating the full sweep of the Sisterhood's life as its members negotiations of every sort: property ownership and disposal, the changing and creation of gender roles, the creative attention to growth in the region's new American population, the management and distribution of wealth, and the steady development of new patterns in Episcopal Church life and women's ministry.

Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd organizer and trustee Euphemia Van Rensselaer (1816–1888) was the daughter of Stephen Van Rensselaer and the sister of Alexander Van Rensselaer. She was born on the family manor, Rensselaerswyck, near Albany, New York, and inherited a portion of her father's vast estate in 1839. This picture was painted in 1842 by George P. A. Healy (1813–1894) in the year before her marriage to John Church Cruger, a prominent lawyer with whom she settled on Cruger's Island near Barrytown, New York. Healy painted the portrait in Paris, where he executed works for visiting Americans as well as for the French king, Louis Philippe. Accession number 23.102 the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Medium: oil on canvas, 45 3/4 x 35 1/4 in. (115.1 x 89.2 cm), Bequest of Cornelia Cruger, 1923.

1871

The Society incorporated March 27th 1871 under the title of "The Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd" held a meeting at St. Barnabas House May 16th 1871. The following Trustees were present:

Sister Ellen
Sister Elizabeth[10]
Helen H. Smith
Euphemia Van Rensselaer[11]
Elizabeth H. Wisner

The Presiding Sister called the meeting to order. Elizabeth H. Wisner was chosen Secretary.[12]

The following By-Laws were adopted.

1. The time for the annual election of the Trustees and the presentation of the annual report shall be the second Tuesday after Easter at the place designated by the Presiding Sister.

2. The members of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd shall be entitled to vote.

3. Any vacancy occurring by the death or assignation of one of the Trustees may be filled at any meeting of the others called by the Presiding Sister, a majority of the votes of those present being necessary to elect.

4. The expenditure of money entrusted to the Sisterhood shall be under the direction of the Presiding Sister with the advice of the Pastor.

Resolved that Mr. Wm. Alexander Smith[13] be appointed Treasurer for the year ending the second Tuesday after Easter 1872.

E. H. Wisner, Sec.

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[10] Elizabeth G. Dawson (1832-1897) was a parishioner at Christ Church, Boston before becoming a founding member of the Sisterhood. See Henry Codman Potter, "A Sister's Life and Work: In Memory of Sr. Elizabeth G. Dawson," *The Churchman* (New York), February 13, 1897, p. 256.

[11] Euphemia White Van Rensselaer Cruger (1816-1888) was an heir to the vast estate of her father, New York Governor Stephen Van Rensselaer, III (1764-1839). It is noteworthy that she is listed in the Minute Book under her maiden name during the five years of her trusteeship, despite having married John Church Cruger (1807-1879) in 1843 and settling with him on Cruger's Island in the Hudson River. She is buried in Trinity Churchyard, New York. Her striking portrait painted by George P. A. Healy (1813-1894) is in the permanent collection of the Metropolitan Museum.

[12] Elizabeth Hornor Wisner (1842-1930), the only secretary of the Sisterhood during the duration of its work, was a prominent lay benefactor of church causes in New York and a chairman of the Girls Friendly Society in America. She is buried in St. James Cemetery, Goshen, Orange County, New York. See "Carillon a Surprise Gift: Chimes Herald Christmas at City Mission on Welfare Island," *The New York Times*, December 25, 1927, p. 19.

[13] William Alexander Smith (1820-1911) was a prominent member of many Episcopal Church boards and philanthropic organizations, having served as a president of the New York Stock Exchange and pursued a career as a successful banker. See *Who's Who in New York City and State* (New York: L. R. Hamersly, 1904), Vol. I, p. 552.

1872

The Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held their second annual meeting the second Tuesday after Easter (April 9th 1872) at St. Barnabas House, the Pastor presiding.

The following trustees were present—

Sister Ellen

Sister Elizabeth

Euphemia Van Rensselaer

Elizabeth H. Wisner

The officers and trustees of the preceding year were re-elected.

The annual report was adopted and order to be printed.

E. H. Wisner, Sec.

1873

The Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held their third Annual Meeting the second Tuesday after Easter (April 22nd) at St. Barnabas House, the Pastor presiding.

The following Trustees were present—

Sister Ellen

Sister Elizabeth

Helen H. Smith

Euphemia Van Rensselaer

Elizabeth H. Wisner

Also other members of the Sisterhood.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The Treasurer reported $158.70 in the treasury, and a $1,000 Keokuk, Fort Des Moines and Minnesota Bond.

The officers and trustees of the preceding year were re-elected.

The annual report was adopted and ordered to be printed.

E. H. Wisner, Sec.

1874

The Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held its fourth annual meeting the second Tuesday after Easter (April 14th) at St. Barnabas House, the Pastor presiding.

The following trustees were present—

Sister Ellen

Sister Elizabeth

Also other members of the Sisterhood.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The officers and trustees of the preceding year were re-elected.

The annual report was adopted and ordered to be printed.

E. H. Wisner, Sec.

1875

The Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held its fifth annual meeting the second Tuesday after Easter (April 6th 1875) at St. Barnabas House the Pastor presiding.

The following Trustees were present:

Sister Elizabeth

E. H. Wisner

Also other members of the Sisterhood.

Minutes of the last meeting read and approved.

Miss E. Van Rensselaer sent her resignation which was accepted. Sister Julia[14] was elected Trustee in her place. With that exception the officers and trustees of the preceding year were re-elected.

The annual report was approved and ordered to be printed.

E. H. Wisner, Sec.

[14] Julia Coates Price ().

1876

The Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held its sixth annual meeting the second Tuesday after Easter (April 26th 1876) at St. Barnabas House, the Pastor presiding.

The following Trustees present:
Sister Ellen
Sister Elizabeth
Sister Julia
E. H. Wisner

Minutes of the last meeting read and approved.

Treasurer's report presented and referred back to him for corrections.

Officers and Trustees of the preceding year re-elected.

The annual report approved and ordered to be printed.

E. H. Wisner, Sec.

1877

The Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held its seventh Annual Meeting the second Tuesday after Easter (April 10th 1877) at St. Barnabas House, the Pastor presiding.

The following Trustees were present:

Sister Ellen

Sister Elizabeth

Sister Julia

E. H. Wisner

Minutes of the last meeting read and approved.

Treasurer's report presented.

The officers and trustees of the preceding year re-elected except Miss Helen H. Smith who is unable to attend the meetings. Her place was supplied by Miss Buffington.

Annual report approved and ordered to be printed.

E. H. Wisner, Sec.

The Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held its eighth Annual Meeting the second Tuesday after Easter (April 30th) 1878 at St. Barnabas House, Sister Ellen presiding.

The following Trustees were present:

Sister Ellen
Sister Elizabeth
Sister Julia
Sister Ruth[15]
Miss E. H. Wisner

Minutes of the last meeting read and approved.

Treasurer's report received and accepted.

The officers and trustees of the preceding year re-elected.

By-law No. 2 was amended and will read "Sisters and trustees of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd shall be present at the meetings and entitled to vote.

The annual report approved and ordered to be printed.

E. H. Wisner, Sec.

A special meeting of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd was held at St. Barnabas House, June 20th, 1878. The following Trustees were present:

Sister Ellen
Sister Elizabeth
Sister Julia
E. H. Wisner

The following resolutions were passed.

I. That Sister Ellen be authorized, on behalf of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd, to sign the paper drawn by James A. Bradley, of Asbury Park, on the 8th of June 1878, selling a plot of ground in Asbury Park, to the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd on certain conditions named in the paper.

II. That Sister Ellen be authorized, on behalf of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd, to sign the contract with C. W. Fox for the building of the lot on Asbury Park, and authorized to make payments on account of said contract.

E. H. Wisner, Sec.

A special meeting of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd was held at St. Barnabas House, November 19th 1878.

The following Trustees present:

Sister Ellen
Sister Elizabeth
E. H. Wisner

The following resolution was passed:

That the Presiding Sister be authorized on behalf of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd to borrow the sum of $1300 thirteen hundred dollars.

E. H. Wisner, Sec.

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[15] Ruth Moore Buffington (-1920) was among the deaconesses set apart on April 25, 1900.

1879

A special meeting of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd was held at St. Barnabas House February 2nd 1879. The following Trustees were present:

Sister Ellen
Sister Elizabeth
Sister Julia
E. H. Wisner.

The following resolution was passed.

That the Treasurer be authorized to loan Doctor Armstrong one hundred and fifty or two hundred dollars, as he deems best.

E. H. Wisner, Sec.

The Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held its ninth annual meeting the second Tuesday after Easter (April 22nd) 1879 at St. Barnabas House, the Pastor presiding.

The following trustees present:

Sister Ellen
Sister Julia
Sister Elizabeth
E.H. Wisner

Minutes of the last meeting read and approved.

Treasurer's report presented and accepted.

William Alexander Smith, Esq. was elected treasurer, Elizabeth H. Wisner secretary, Sister Ellen, Sister Elizabeth, Sister Julia, Sister Adelia[16], E. H. Wisner, Trustees.

The annual report approved and ordered to be printed.

E. H. Wisner, Secretary

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1880

The Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held its tenth annual meeting, the second Tuesday after Easter (April 6th) 1880, at St. Barnabas House, the Pastor presiding.

The following trustees present—

Sister Ellen

Sister Elizabeth

Sister Julia

Sister Adelia

E. H. Wisner

Minutes of the last meeting read and approved.

Treasurer's report presented and accepted.

Officers and Trustees of the preceding year re-elected. The annual report approved and ordered to be printed.

E. H. Wisner, Sec.

1881

The Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held its eleventh annual meeting the second Tuesday after Easter (April 26th) 1881 at St. Barnabas House, the Pastor presiding.

The following Trustees present:
Sister Ellen
Sister Elizabeth
Sister Julia
Sister Adelia
E. H. Wisner

Minutes of the last meeting read and approved.

Treasurer's report presented and accepted.

Officers and Trustees of the preceding year re-elected.

The annual report approved and ordered to be printed.

E. H. Wisner, Sec.

On Monday, March 20th, a meeting of the Sisters and Associates of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd was held at St. Ann's rectory, Dr. Gallaudet, the pastor of the Sisterhood, presiding.

It was opened with the creed and a few collects.

Dr. Gallaudet said that since the foundation of the Sisterhood they had been working for the City Mission Society at St. Barnabas House, and are at present engaged also in work for St. James' parish, Wilmington, N.C. and at Christ's Hospital, Jersey City and that they owned a house at Asbury Park valued at $6000. But now the need was deeply of a Sisters' House, where the Sisterhood could expand and grow. Frequently good and useful women are lost to the work because there is no place where they can be received while they try their fitness for the life, for of course at St. Barnabas House they can receive only the number required to do that particular work. The meeting was called to consider the necessity of a Sisters' House and the character of work there to be carried on.

After some conversation Dr. Gallaudet said he judged the voice of the meeting was decidedly in favor of having a Sisters' House where they could receive women desirous of training in Church work, or those who while employed in the city might wish a comfortable Christian home. The whole subject to be referred to a committee who would call the next meeting: Miss George M. Miller, Miss Isabel Schermerhorn, Miss E. H. Wisner appointed on the committee.

The meeting adjourned.

A second meeting was held of the Sisters and Associates of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd, at St. Ann's Rectory, March 28th, the Pastor presiding. the report of the committee was read as follows.

The committee appointed March 20th to search for a suitable building to be used as a Sisters' House would report that they look at a house, No. 75 Christopher St., 25 feet wide, built of brick, three stories high with an attic. It seemed in good repair and was extremely cheerful and conveniently arranged and had a good yard. It was for rent for one thousand dollars a year. They also went over a very fine house, 147 2nd Ave., 32 feet wide, three stories and attic, with a commodious brick building, it was in very good repair and if it had been built for the purpose could handily have been more suitable. This house is for sale and the price charged $35000 dollars, but there is every reason to believe it could be bought for several thousand dollars less.

The committee would also state that they understand it is quite as easy to rent houses in the Autumn as in the Spring, and as the Sisters would not be able to open the house before the Fall they intend renting to take no further steps towards taking the house for the present. If however it is considered best to buy they would advise securing the house in 2nd Ave. as soon as possible.

It was then moved and seconded that a meeting relating to this subject be held in the chapel of St. Barnabas House immediately after the services of the Sisters' anniversary when a circular be given to each one present:

THE Associates of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd in the Diocese of New York have long seen that the growth and efficiency of the Sisterhood were greatly hindered by the want of a Sisters' House, where all who desire may be received and train for work. The Sisterhood can never grow to meet the constant appeals for Sisters, when every applicant for admission must be refused unless there should be a vacancy among the workers in St. Barnabas' House, or in the other Houses under their charge.

The Sisters have recently been asked if they can meet a want most deeply felt by many—a comfortable, quiet Home for gentlewomen obliged to earn their own living. It has been ascertained that if house and furniture are provided, current expenses can be met by their board. A Sisters' House would enable the Sisterhood to undertake this and other work. A Committee of the Associates was appointed at a meeting held at St. Ann's Rectory, March 20th, to state these facts to the Church. Are there not those who will be willing to help rent a house or purchased one for the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd?

Contributions can be sent to Sister Ellen, St. Barnabas' House, 304 Mulberry Street, or to the members of the Committee: Mrs. G. M. MILLER, 270 Madison Avenue, Miss ISABEL SCHERMERHORN, 125 West Fifty-third Street, Miss E. H. WISNER, 18 West Twelfth Street.

The Bishop of the Diocese desires me to state that he approves of this effort to secure a House for the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd.

THOMAS GALLAUDET, Pastor,
9 West 18th Street.

Second Tuesday after Easter.
NEW YORK, April 18th, 1882.

The Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held its twelfth annual meeting the second Tuesday after Easter (April 18th) 1882 at St. Barnabas House, the Pastor presiding.

The following Trustees present—
Sister Ellen
Sister Elizabeth
Sister Julia
Sister Adelia
E. H. Wisner

The minutes of the last meeting read and approved.
Treasurer's report presented and accepted.
Officers and Trustees of the preceding year re-elected.
The annual report approved and ordered to be printed.

E. H. Wisner, Sec.

1883

The Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held its thirteenth annual meeting the second Tuesday after Easter (April 3rd) 1883 at St. Barnabas House, the Pastor presiding.

The following Trustees present—

Sister Ellen
Sister Elizabeth
Sister Julia
Sister Adelia
E. H. Wisner

The minutes of the last meeting read and approved.

Treasurer's report presented and accepted.

The annual report approved and ordered to be printed.

E. H. Wisner, Sec.

1884

The Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held its fourteenth annual meeting the second Tuesday after Easter (April 22nd) 1884 at St. Barnabas House, the Pastor presiding.

The following Trustees present—
Sister Ellen
Sister Elizabeth
Sister Julia
Sister Adelia
E. H. Wisner

The minutes of the last meeting read and approved.

Treasurer's report presented and accepted.

The annual report approved and ordered to be printed.

E. H. Wisner, Sec.

The Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held its fifteenth annual meeting the second Tuesday after Easter (April 14th) at St. Barnabas House, the Pastor presiding.

The following Trustees present—
Sister Ellen
Sister Julia
Sister Elizabeth
Sister Adelia
E. H. Wisner

Minutes of the last meeting read and approved.

The Treasurer's report presented and accepted.

The annual report approved and ordered to be printed.

E. H. Wisner, Sec.

A meeting of the trustees of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd was held at St. Barnabas' House Sept. 17th 1885, the Pastor Dr. Gallaudet presiding.

The following trustees present—
Sister Ellen
Sister Elizabeth
Sister Julia
E. H. Wisner

The following resolution was offered and unanimously carried:

Resolved that Dr. Gallaudet be authorized to affix the seal of the Sisterhood to an agreement between the Sisterhood and Mr. Wells with reference to leasing his house on 9th Ave near 22nd St. for three years & seven months, from October 1st 1885 to May 1st 1889.

E. H. Wisner, Esq.

1886

The Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held its sixteenth annual meeting the second Tuesday after Easter (May 3) at the Sisters' House, 197 Ninth Ave. The Pastor, the Rev. Thomas Gallaudet, presided. The following Trustees present:

Sister Ellen
Sister Elizabeth
Sister Julia
Sister Adelia
E. H. Wisner

Minutes of the last meetings read and approved.

Treasurer's report presented and accepted.

The Annual Report approved and ordered to be printed.

The following resolution was adopted.

Resolved, that the Rev. Thomas Gallaudet D.D. be authorized to receive the legacy gift of Mrs. Dalrymple to the House of the Good Shepherd, Asbury Park, New Jersey.

E. H. Wisner

A meeting of the Trustees of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd was held Dec. 23rd 1886 at Sisters' House, 197 9th Ave.

The Pastor the Rev. Thomas Gallaudet presided.

The following Trustees present—

Sister Ellen
Sister Elizabeth
Sister Julia
Elizabeth H. Wisner

Ellen Hulme, known as Sister Ellen, was unanimously elected President.[17]

The following resolution was offered and accepted.

Resolved that, the President and Secretary be authorized to execute a release and receipt for the legacy left to the Sisterhood for the House of the Good Shepherd, Asbury Park N.J. by Mrs. Marianne Dalrymple.

Eliz. N. Wisner, Sec.

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[17] Ellen Hulme (May 26, 1824-September 5, 1887) was born a Quaker, and educated at St. Mary's Hall, Burlington, New Jersey. She was confirmed by George Washington Doane, a primary interpreter of the Tractarian movement in the United States. After graduation from St. Mary's Hall in the Class of 1847, she XXXXX. See Doane, *The Bishop's Address to the Members of the Senior Class at St. Mary's Hall* (Burlington, New Jersey: Edmund Morris, 1845), p. 29.
See "Death in the Fold," *Asbury Park Journal*, September 10, 1887, p. 2; "The Funeral of Sister Ellen Largely Attended" *The Times* (Philadelphia), September 11, 1887, p. 15.

The Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held its seventeenth annual meeting in the vestry room of St. Ann's Church the 2nd Tuesday after Easter (April 19th).

The minutes of the last two meetings read and approved.

Treasurer's report presented and accepted.

Sister Ellen Hulme was elected President. Wm. Alex. Smith Esq. Treasurer and Eliz. N. Wisner Secretary.

And
Sister Ellen
Sister Julia
Sister Elizabeth
Sister Ruth
E. H. Wisner
Trustees.

The Annual Report approved and ordered to be printed, the number of copies to be left the discretion of the President.

E. H. Wisner, Sec.

A meeting of the Trustees of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd was held June 13th 1887 at St. Ann's Rectory, Sister Ellen presiding.

The following sisters present—
Sister Ellen
Sister Elizabeth
Sister Julia
Sister Ruth
Elizabeth H. Wisner

The following paper was read.

On behalf of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd I hereby accept the proposition made through the Rt. Rev. H. C. Potter for the application of the sum of eight hundred dollars in cash and three thousand two hundred dollars in bonds viz.

(a) That the money shall be applied to the training of young girls for domestic service

(b) That the amount in bonds shall be preserved as principle and deposited by the Treasurer of the Sisterhood in a safe deposit co. the interest thereof only to be used and the balance in cash to be applied to the same general purpose.

Signed

Wm. Alex Smith
Treas. of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd.

It was then resolved that the action of William Alexander Smith, Treasurer of the Sisterhood, in accepting the donation above mentioned and on the terms above stated be ratified and confirmed.

Elizabeth H. Wisner, Sec.

A special meeting of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd was held at the Sisters' House 191 9th Ave., Dec. 8th 1887 to elect a Trustee to take the place of Sister Ellen who died in September.

The following Trustees present—
Sister Elizabeth
Sister Julia
Sister Ruth
E. H. Wisner
Sister Adelia Hawley was unanimously elected Trustee and President.

Elizabeth H. Wisner, Sec.

1888

The Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held its eighteenth annual meeting at the Sisters' House, 191 9th Ave. the second Tuesday after Easter (April 10th), the Pastor presiding. The following Trustees present—

Sister Adelia
Sister Elizabeth
Sister Ruth
Sister Julia
E. H. Wisner

Minutes of the last meeting read and approved.

Treasurer's report read and condensed.

The officers and trustees of the last year re-elected.

The annual report approved and eight-hundred copies ordered to be printed.

E. H. Wisner, Sec.

1889

A meeting of the Trustees of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd was held at St. Clement's House, 173 Macdougal St., Jan 23rd 1889.

The following Trustees present—
Sister Adelia
Sister Elizabeth
Sister Julia
Sister Ruth
Elizabeth H. Wisner

The following resolution offered and accepted.

Resolved that the Sisterhood purchase the property 417 and 419 W. 19th St. for $25 0000 (twenty five thousand dollars).

The meeting then adjourned.

Eliz. H. Wisner, Sec.

The Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held its Annual Meeting in St. Ann's Church on Thursday May 2nd.

The following Trustees present.
Sister Adelia
Sister Elizabeth
Sister Julia
Sister Ruth
E. H. Wisner

Minutes of last meetings read and approved.

Treasurer's report read, approved and ordered upon file.

Officers and Trustees of last year re-elected.

The Annual Report approved and six hundred copies ordered to be printed.

Eliz. H. Wisner

1890

The Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held its twentieth annual meeting on Tuesday after Easter at St. Ann's Church. The following Trustees present—

Sister Adelia

Sister Julia

Not enough present to make a quorum.

1891

The Trustees of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held their Annual Meeting on Tuesday, April 7th, at the Sisters House 419 W. 19th St.

Sister Adelia, Sister Julia, E. H. Wisner were present.

Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

Treasurer's report, read, approved and ordered upon file.

Sister Ruth sent in her resignation and Sister Helena was elected Trustee in her place, with that exception the officers and trustees of the preceding year were re-elected.

The Annual Report approved and seven hundred copies ordered to be printed.

E. H. Wisner. Sec.

1892

The Trustees of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held their twenty-second Annual Meeting at the Sisters' House, 419 W. 19th St. on Thursday, May 17th, Sister Adelia, Sister Julia and E. H. Wisner present.

Minutes of the last meeting read and approved.

Treasurer's report presented and accepted.

The officers and trustees of the preceding year were re-elected.

E. H. Wisner, Sec.

1893

The Trustees of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held their twenty-third Annual meeting at the Sisters' House 419 W. 19th St. on Tuesday April 11th.

Sister Adelia, Sister Elizabeth, and Sister Julia present.

Minutes of the last meeting read and approved.

Treasurer's report presented and accepted.

The officers and trustees of the preceding year were re-elected.

The Annual Report approved and six hundred copies ordered to be printed.

1894

The Trustees of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held their twenty-fourth Annual Meeting on Monday, May 14th, at the Sisters' House, 419 W. 19th Street.

Sister Adelia, Sister Elizabeth, Sister Julia and E. H. Wisner were present.

The Treasurer's report was presented and accepted.

The officers and trustees of last year were re-elected.

E. H. Wisner, Sec.

1895

The Trustees of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held their twenty-fifth annual meeting, at the Sisters' House 419 W. 19th St., on Tuesday, April 23rd, 1895.

Sister Adelia, Sister Julia and Sister Helena were present.

Treasurer's report read and accepted.

Officers and Trustees of last year were re-elected.

Sister Adelia, Secretary pro tem.

1896

The Trustees of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held their twenty sixth Annual Meeting at the Sisters' House 419 W. 19th St.

Sister Adelia
Sister Elizabeth
Sister Julia
Sister Helena
E. H. Wisner
were present.

The Treasurer's report presented and accepted.

Officers and Trustees of last year were re-elected.

Elizabeth H. Wisner, Sec.

The Trustees of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held their twenty seventh Annual Meeting at the Sisters House, 419 W. 19th St. on Monday, April 19th.

Sister Adelia, Sister Julia and E. H. Wisner were present.

The Treasurer's report read and accepted.

The Annual report was presented and approved and the Presiding Sister was authorized to print the number she thought needed.

Mr. William Alexander Smith who had served as Treasurer since the incorporation of the Sisterhood sent in his resignation. It was accepted and Mr. J. Hull Browning was elected to fill his place.[18]

Sister Elizabeth, one of the incorporators, having died, Miss Virginia Gallaudet[19] was elected Trustee. The other officers and trustees of last year were re-elected.

Elizabeth H. Wisner, Sec.

[18] John Hull Browning (1841-1914). See , p. 707.

[19] Virginia Butler Gallaudet (1851-1930) was a daughter of Thomas Gallaudet who continued her family's association with the Sisterhood after her father's death. After her own death, the Virginia Gallaudet Memorial Reredos was dedicated at St. Ann's Church, New York. See the Gallaudet University Library Deaf Collections and Archives, MSS 78, St. Ann's Church for the Deaf. The Virginia Butler Gallaudet Association had ended its work in her memory by 1948. See *The Buff and Blue* (Washington, D.C.: Gallaudet College, 1930), p. 59.

A special meeting of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd was held in the Sisters' House, 419 W. 19th St., on June 3rd 1898.

The following sisters were present—

Sister Julia

Sister Helena

Sister Martha

Sister Isabel[20]

Eliz. H. Wisner.

The following resolutions were passed.

Resolved, That whereas, our dear Sister Adelia is very sick and unable to attend to the matters of the Sisterhood,

And whereas, she has given power of attorney to Sister Isabel, in regard to all of the money matters pertaining to the House and the Home at Asbury Park, we hereby appoint Sister Isabel as the treasurer of said funds, and request her to open the accounts in the Second National Bank of the City of New York and the Manhattan Savings Institution of New York, said Banks now having the accounts in the name of Sister Adelia, in trust for the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd.

Resolved, that as our dear Sister Adelia is unable to attend to the duties of the Home and the House, Sister Isabel is here appointed Assistant Presiding Sister in charge of all of the affairs of the Sisterhood until Sister Adelia is able to attend to her duties or until another Presiding Sister is elected.

The Treasurer's report was presented and accepted.

The Trustees and Officers of the last year were re-elected.

Elizabeth H. Wisner, Esq.

A special meeting of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd was held at the Sisters; House, 419 W. 19th St. on Saturday, Oct. 8th.

The Pastor, the Rev. Thomas Gallaudet, D.D., presided.

Present: Sr. Julia, Sr. Helena, Sr. Isabel, Sr. Ruth, Virginia Gallaudet and E. H. Wisner.

The meeting was called to elect a Trustee to take the place of Sister Adelia who died in Aug. 1898.

The Pastor announced that Sister Ruth had been elected by the Sisters to be the Presiding Sister.

Sister Ruth was unanimously elected a Trustee.

Sister Ruth was elected Treasurer to take charge of all funds pertaining to the Sisters' House and to the House of the Good Shepherd at Asbury Park.

Elizabeth H. Wisner, Sec.

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[20] Isabel J. Perry (1851-1926) was the last member of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd. See *The Los Angeles Times*, October 9, 1926, p. 18; *The Alumnæ Bulletin* (New York: Alumnae Association of the New York Training School for Deaconesses) November, 1926, pp. 10-11. She is buried at Forest Lawn Memorial Park, Glendale, Los Angeles, California.

A special meeting of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd was held at the Sisters' House, 419 W. 19th St. on Monday Jan. 23rd.

The following trustees were present:

Sister Ruth

Sister Julia

Sister Helena

Miss V. B. Gallaudet

The following resolution was passed:

Resolved, That we hereby give the Treasurer the power to assign and dispose of three shares of Southern Railroad's common stock and seven shares of the Southern Railroad's preferred stock, also five shares of the Atchison and Topeka Railroad's preferred stock and four hundred dollars ($400.00) of Atchison and Topeka Railroad's scrip, for the benefit of the Sisterhood.

At the conclusion of the Annual Service a meeting of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd was held. Bishop Potter made an address with regard to the future of the Sisterhood. He proposed steps should be taken to affiliate the Sisterhood work with that of the Deaconesses. A committee was appointed, to confer with those in charge of the Deaconess work, consisting of the Rev. Thomas Gallaudet, D.D., Sister Ruth, Sister Isabel, Mrs. A. T. Twing[21] and Elizabeth H. Wisner.

Eliz. H. Wisner, Sec.

The Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held its twenty ninth Annual Meeting at the Sisters' House 419 W. 14th St. on Tuesday April 11th.

The following trustees present:

Sister Ruth, Sister Julia, Elizabeth H. Wisner.

The Rev. Thomas Gallaudet, D.D., Pastor of the Sisterhood, presided.

Minutes of the last meeting read and approved.

Treasurer's report accepted.

Officers and Trustees of the preceding year re-elected.

The Annual Report approved and ordered to be printed, the number of copies left to the discretion of Presiding Sister.

Eliz. H. Wisner, Sec.

The Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held its twenty ninth Annual Meeting at the Sisters' House 419 W. 14th St. on Tuesday April 11th.

The following trustees present—

Sister Ruth, Sister Julia, Elizabeth H. Wisner.

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[21] Mary Abbott Emery Twing (Mrs. Alvi Tabor Twing, 1845-1901) was the first secretary and organizer of the Women's Auxiliary to the Board of Missions of the Protestant Episcopal Church from 1871-1876. She was a faculty member at the New York Training School for Deaconesses, and served as editor of *Church Work: A Monthly Magazine for Church Workers*, founded in 1885. See Mary Sudman Donovan, "Zealous Evangelists: the Woman's Auxiliary to the Board of Missions" in *Historical Magazine of the Protestant Episcopal Church*, Vol. 51, No. 4, (December, 1982), pp. 371-383.

The Rev. Thomas Gallaudet, D.D., Pastor of the Sisterhood, presided.
Minutes of last meeting read and approved.
Treasurer's report accepted.
Officers and Trustees of the preceding year re-elected.
The Annual Report approved and ordered to be printed, the number of copies left to the discretion of the Presiding Sister.

Eliz. H. Wisner, Sec.

A special meeting of the Trustees of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd was held on Friday, April 21st at the Sisters' House 419 W. 19th St.

It was decided that the Sisters become Deaconesses and the following proposal made for the disposition of property owned by the Sisterhood.

This proposed, to be laid before the Bishop and Dr. Huntington for their approval.

Eliz. H. Wisner, Sec.

1. The property on West Nineteenth Street to be sold, and the proceeds given to the Trustees of the New York Training-school for Deaconesses,[22] for the purchase of the house adjoining St. Faith's, East Twelfth Street, one room being reserved for the sisters, provided that, when that property is sold and the house on the Cathedral site is built, the amount given by the Sisters be used for the building of the Chapel of the house, to be called the Chapel of the Good Shepherd.

2. If no Chapel is to be built in connection with the house, the amount may be used for a certain part of the house, a suitable tablet being placed on the wall in either case, to commemorate the gift.

3. The Trustees of the Sisterhood will resolve the House of the Good Shepherd, Asbury Park, and the Trust Funds, for the support of the Sisters at present constituting the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd, making provision that all remaining property shall revert to the Trustees of the New York Training-school for Deaconesses at the death of the last survivor.

A special meeting of the Trustees of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd was held on Nov. 8th at St. Faith's Home, 228 East 12th St.

The following Trustees present—
Sister Ruth
Sister Helena
Virginia B. Gallaudet
Elizabeth H. Wisner
The following resolutions were passed.

[22] The New York Training School for Deaconesses opened in 1891 under the direction of William Reed Huntington and Mary Abbot Emery Twing. It offered a two-year residential training course for women who were subsequently set apart as deaconesses. The NYTSD moved to the grounds of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in 1910, and closed between 1942 and 1944. Reopening briefly, it closed permanently in 1948. The Archives of the Episcopal Diocese of New York are the repository of the extensive remaining NYTSD manuscripts and records.

Resolved, That we hereby give the Treasurer, J. Hull Browning Esq. the power to sell the property Nos. 417 and 419 West 19th St. belonging to the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd and send the amount received to Sister Ruth.

Resolved, That Sister Julia be comfortably and properly cared for as long as she lives.

Elizabeth H. Wisner, Sec.

A special meeting of the Trustees of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd was held Dec. 6, 1899 at St. Faith's House, 228 E. 12th St.

The following Trustees present—
Sister Ruth
Sister Helena
Miss E. H. Wisner
Miss V. B. Gallaudet

Sister Ruth read the following amendment to the original agreement:

SUGGESTION.

Provided that when the permanent home of the School is built on Cathedral Heights, the Chapel thereof shall be called the Memorial Chapel of the Good Shepherd, and shall have placed on its walls a tablet stating that it commemorates the Sisterhood of that name.

It was moved by Miss Wisner and seconded by Miss Gallaudet that the amendment be adopted. This resolution was unanimously carried.

The following resolution was also carried.

I hereby certify that at a duly convened meeting of the trustees of THE SISTERHOOD OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD held on the Sixth day of December, 1899, the following resolution was adopted by the concurring vote of at least two thirds of the whole number of said trustees.

ORDERED and RESOLVED that the real property of this Corporation known as Nos. 417 and 419 West Nineteenth Street in the Borough of Manhattan and City of New York (situate on the Northerly side of said street 210 feet, 8 and 4/7 inches West of Ninth Avenue and being 42 feet and 10 2/7 inches wide in front and read and 80 feet deep on each side,—be said dimensions more or less) be sold for Eighteen thousand dollars cash to Pincus Lowenfeld and William Prager, or to such other persons as well buy the same at the same price and terms; that application be made to the Supreme Court for leave to make such sale; and that the treasurer, J. Hull Browning, be authorized to sign, seal, prove and verify on behalf of this Corporation, all such deeds, petitions and other papers as may be necessary to obtain such leave of court and to carry out such sale and the conveyance of said property in accordance with this resolution; and that the treasurer be further authorized to employ such legal assistance as may in his opinion be necessary or advisable in the aforesaid matters.

Sister Ruth, President
Elizabeth H. Wisner, Secretary

Sister Ruth was empowered to have drawn up the terms of agreement to be signed by the Trustees of the Deaconess Training School and the Trustees of the Sisterhood when the proceeds of the sale of the houses 417 and 419 W. 19th St. shall be handed over to the Trustees of the Deaconess Training School.

Elizabeth H. Wisner, Sec.

The Trustees of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held their Annual Meeting at the house of the Rev. Thomas Gallaudet, D.D., 112 W. 78th St. The following Trustees were present—

Sister Ruth, Sister Julia, Sister Helena, Miss Gallaudet, and Miss E. H. Wisner.

Sister Isabel was also present.

The minutes of the last Annual Meeting and other special meetings were read and approved.

Reports of work were made by Sister Ruth, Sister Helena and Sister Isabel.

Sister Ruth, Sister Isabel, Mr. James H. Canfield,[23] Virginia B. Gallaudet and Elizabeth H. Wisner were elected Trustees, Sister Ruth was elected President, Mr. J. Hull Browning Treasurer, and Miss E. H. Wisner Secretary.

Sister Ruth was authorized to assist Mr. Browning in the management of the funds.

The following resolution was passed.

Resolved—That in future a meeting of the Trustees be held in the second Tuesday in February in addition to the Annual Meeting.

Elizabeth H. Wisner, Sec.

[23] James Hulme Canfield (1847-1909) was librarian of Columbia University at the time of his death, and a trustee of a large number of Episcopal Church organizations based in New York. He had served as chancellor of the University of Nebraska from 1891 to 1895, and president of the University of Ohio from 1895 to 1899. See obituary notices: "Dr. Canfield Dead," *The New York Times*, March 30, 1909, p. 1; "Dr. Canfield's Funeral," *The New York Times*, April 1, 1909, p. 1 *The Library Journal*, April, 1909, pp. 143-144; and *Libraries: A Monthly Review*, May 1909, pp. 176-177.

The regular meeting of the Trustees of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd was held at St. Faith's, 228 East 12th St., on the second Tuesday in February, Feb. 12th.

Sister Ruth
Sister Isabel
Sister Helena
Elizabeth H. Wisner
were present.

The Treasurer's Report was read. Sister Isabel and Sister Helena gave satisfactory reports of their work.

It was decided to lease for another year the house where the clothing bureau is now located under the charge of Sister Helena.

The following resolution was passed.

Resolved—That the Treasurer Mr. J. Hull Browning be authorized to invest money now in savings bank as he thinks advisable.

It was thought best for the present to use the interest of the Trust fund for the support of a girl in the school at Asbury Park, the daughter of a clergyman preferred. Elizabeth H. Wisner, Sec.

The Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held its thirty first Annual Meeting on Tuesday, April 16th at St. Faith's, 228 East 12th St.

Present—
Sister Ruth, Sister Isabel, Sister Helena, Dr. Canfield, Miss Gallaudet

Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

Treasurer's report read and accepted.

Mr. Browning reported that a mortgage of fifteen thousand dollars had been paid in and Sister Ruth said that eight thousand of that had been reinvested in another mortgage.

A resolution was passed.

Authorizing the Treasurer to use his judgment as to the investing of the remaining seven thousand.

Sister Ruth also reported cash on hand three thousand seven hundred and sixty-six dollars and sixty-eight cents besides an indefinite fund in the Manhattan Savings Bank. A small part of this fund is trust money, the rest belongs to the Sisterhood fund.

Clothing Bureau reported a balance of two hundred and eighty-three dollars and twelve cents.

Sister Isabel reported satisfactorily.

Decided that the February meeting be changed to second Tuesday in October at 3:30 p.m.

Virginia Gallaudet
Sec. pro tem.

The Autumn meeting of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd was held on Thursday, Oct. 29th, 3:30 p.m.

Sister Ruth, Sister Isabel, Sister Helena, Dr. Canfield, Miss Gallaudet and Miss E. H. Wisner were present.

Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

Sister Ruth gave a satisfactory report of the financial condition of the Sisterhood.

Sister Isabel said the prospects of the School at House of the Good Shepherd, Asbury Park had never been so encouraging.

During the Summer there had been little done at the clothing bureau. And it was proposed that postals be printed and sent to those who might be glad to help with the work.

Elizabeth H. Wisner

The Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held its thirty second Annual Meeting at St. Faith's, 228 E. 12th St., on Tuesday, April 8th.

Present—Sister Ruth, Sister Isabel, Sister Helena and E. H. Wisner.

Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

Treasurer's report read and accepted.

The work at the House of the Good Shepherd, Asbury Park, has been encouraging.

It was moved and carried that the date of the Fall meeting be left to the option of the Presiding Sister.

The Offices and Trustees of the last year were re-elected. It was deemed expedient to close the clothing bureau.

E. H. Wisner, Sec.

The Fall meeting of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd was held at St. Faith's, 228 E. 12th St., on Tuesday, Oct. 28th.

Present, Sister Ruth, Sister Isabel, Sister Helena, Virginia B. Gallaudet, and Eliz. H. Wisner.

After the minutes of the last meeting were read the following resolutions were passed.

I. Resolved that the Treasurer be empowered to dispose of certain securities now bearing no interest and to re-invest, using whatever may be necessary from the fund in Manhattan Savings Bank.

II. Resolved that the Fall meeting be discontinued and the President empowered to call a meeting whenever necessary.

The meeting then adjourned.

Elizabeth H. Wisner, Sec.

1903

The Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held its thirty-third Annual Meeting at St. Faith's, 228 E. 12th St., on Tuesday April 21st.

The following Trustees present—Sister Ruth, Sister Isabel, Virginia B. Gallaudet and Elizabeth H. Wisner.

The minutes of last meeting read and approved.

Treasurer's report read and accepted.

Sister Isabel reported the School of the Good Shepherd was in better condition than ever before.

The following resolution was passed.

Resolved—That Sister Isabel be appointed Treasurer of the School of the Good Shepherd, Asbury Park, New Jersey.

The officers and trustees of the preceding year were re-elected.

The meeting then adjourned.

Elizabeth H. Wisner, Sec.

1904

The Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held its thirty-fourth Annual Meeting at St. Faith's, 228 E. 12th St., on Tuesday April 12th.

The following Trustees present—Sister Ruth, Sister Isabel, Dr. Canfield and Eliz. H. Wisner.

Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

The Treasurer's report read and accepted.

Sister Isabel reported the School in flourishing condition and full.

The officers and trustees of the preceding year re-elected.

Elizabeth H. Wisner, Sec.

1905

The Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held its thirty-fifth Annual Meeting at St. Faith's, 228 E. 12th St., Tuesday May 2nd, 3.30 P.M.

The following Trustees present: Sister Ruth, Sister Isabel and Elizabeth H. Wisner.

The minutes of the last meeting read and accepted.

The Treasurer's report read.

Sister Isabel said the school at the House of the Good Shepherd, Asbury Park was in every respect satisfactory. Two pupils paid for in the past by the Sisterhood.

The officers and trustees of the preceding year were re-elected.

Elizabeth H. Wisner, Sec.

The Trustees of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held their thirty-sixth Annual Meeting on Tuesday, April 24th, at St. Faith's, 228 E. 12th St.

The following Trustees present—Sister Ruth, Sister Isabel, Virginia B. Gallaudet, Dr. Canfield and Elizabeth H. Wisner.

The Treasurer's report was read showing the finances were in good condition.

Sister Isabel reported the School at Asbury Park in good condition, all expenses paid and a small balance on hand.

The following resolution, moved by Miss Gallaudet and seconded by Dr. Canfield, was carried.

Resolved—That five hundred dollars be given to each of the surviving Sisters to enable them to take a much needed rest.

Elizabeth H. Wisner

A special meeting of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd was held on Monday, Nov. 19th at St. Faith's, 228 E. 12th St.

Sister Helena and the following Trustees were present: Dr. Canfield, Sister Ruth, Virginia B. Gallaudet and Elizabeth H. Wisner.

The meeting was called to consider the supervision of the School of the Good Shepherd as Sister Isabella who had been in charge for six years had unexpectedly left.

It was moved by Dr. Canfield and seconded by Miss Wisner that the School of the Good Shepherd, at Asbury Park, be placed in the care and under the supervision of Sister Ruth, and that further action concerning the school and its methods and supervision be deferred until the regular Annual Meeting of the Trustees. It was carried.

The meeting then adjourned.

Elizabeth H. Wisner, Sec.

The Trustees of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held their thirty-seventh Annual Meeting on Tuesday, April 9th, at St. Faith's, 228 E 12th St.

The following Trustees present—Sister Ruth, Sister Isabel, Virginia B. Gallaudet and Elizabeth H. Wisner.

The minutes of Annual Meeting and special meeting read and approved.

The Treasurer's report read and accepted.

Sister Ruth gave a report of money under her care and of the condition of the school at Asbury Park and of the repairs etc. which had been made.

The following resolution offered by Miss V. B. Gallaudet was passed.

Resolved, that Dr. Canfield be made a committee of one to decide upon all the details of the school and its management. And to report to a special meeting of the Trustees on April 23rd at 3:30 P.M. at St. Faith's.

Sister Ruth, Sister Isabel, Dr. Canfield, Virginia B. Gallaudet, and Elizabeth H. Wisner were elected as Trustees for the next year, and Sister Ruth was elected President, Miss E. Wisner, Secretary.

On motion the meeting adjourned.

Elizabeth H. Wisner, Sec.

A special meeting of the Trustees of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd was held on Thursday, April 23rd, at St. Faith's, 228 E. 12th St.

The following Trustees present:

Sister Ruth, Sister Isabel, Dr. Canfield, Virginia B. Gallaudet and Elizabeth H. Wisner.

Sister Helena was also present.

Dr. Canfield read his report—in which he said he thought the management of the School at Asbury Park should be put under the care of Sister Ruth for the coming year. He also suggested some few unimportant changes and read an announcement circular which he had prepared. The report was accepted and the circular adopted.

It was decided that the House of the Good Shepherd at Asbury Park should be kept open during the Summer.

It was moved by Miss Gallaudet, seconded by Miss Wisner that Sister Isabel be put in charge of the House with power to run it in any way which she found most expedient.

On motion the meeting adjourned.

Elizabeth H. Wisner, Sec.

The Trustees of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held their thirty-eighth annual meeting on Tuesday, April 28th at 18 West 12th St.

The following Trustees present—

Sister Ruth, Sister Isabella, Dr. Canfield, Virginia B. Gallaudet and Elizabeth H. Wisner.

The minutes of the Annual Meeting and special meeting read and approved.

The Treasurer's report read and accepted.

Sister Ruth gave a report of the School of the Good Shepherd, the number of pupils was small but it would close for the season free from debt.

Sister Isabella reported that the Summer works at the House of the Good Shepherd had been satisfactory, the house free all Summer and enough money was left to pay for painting the house, the taxes and a balance of about one hundred and fifty dollars.

Sister Ruth said the laundry accommodations at the school were inconvenient and inadequate and she was authorized to make the head alteration.

The officers and trustees of the preceding year were re-elected.

On motion the meeting adjourned.

Elizabeth H. Wisner, Sec.

The Trustees of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held their thirty-ninth Annual Meeting on Thursday, April 20th, at St. Faith's, 228 E. 12th St.

The following Trustees present: Sister Ruth, Sister Isabelle and Elizabeth H. Wisner.

The Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

The Treasurer's report read and accepted.

Sister Ruth told of the funds under her care and reported the School of the Good Shepherd at Asbury Park in a satisfactory condition.

Sister Isabelle reported work in connection with St. Cornelius Church, New York City.

Sister Helena is working in St. Stephen's parish, St. Louis.

The following resolution was adopted.

Resolved that a letter be sent to Mrs. James H. Canfield expressing our sympathy in her loss and our grateful appreciation of Dr. Canfield's interest and helpfulness while acting as a Trustee of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd.

Mr. J. Hull Browning was elected Trustee in Dr. Canfield's place, the other officers and Trustees re-elected.

Elizabeth H. Wisner, Sec.

A special meeting of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd was held at St. Faith's, 228 East 12th Street on Thursday, November 4th.

The following Trustees were present—

Sister Ruth, Sister Isabel, Mr. J. Hull Browning, Miss V. B. Gallaudet and Miss E. H. Wisner.

By-law No. 1 was amended and read. The time of the Annual Meeting of the Trustees shall be either the first or second week in November at the place designated by the President.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The Treasurer's report was read and accepted.

Sister Ruth's report of the work for the past Summer was satisfactory and the School opens with ten boards and eight day scholars.

It was resolved that the following message be sent to the Trustees of School for Deaconesses.

As the report of our decision at the Spring Meeting of the Trustees of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd was given to Dr. Huntington verbally,

And as Dr. Huntington is no longer with us, it has occurred to us that it will be convenient to the Trustees of the School for Deaconesses to have this decision put in written form. Dr. Huntington did not considerable it desirable to have an altar in the chapel in the new Deaconess House in the close of the Cathedral.

The Trustees of the Sisterhood accepted Dr. Huntington's decision in the matter and agreed that the money given by the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd to the Deaconess School to be used in building the School Chapel should be used for the Chapel thus modified. And that the name, "The Memorial Chapel of the Good Shepherd" agreed

upon when the contract was made should be changed to “The Memorial Oratory of the Good Shepherd.” And that the memorial tablet to be placed in the Oratory should so read.

On motion the meeting adjourned.

Elizabeth H. Wisner, Sec.

1910

The Trustees of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held their fortieth Annual Meeting on Friday, Nov. 11th at 18 West 12th St.

The following Trustees present—

Sister Ruth, Sister Isabelle, Mr. J. Hull Browning, Miss Virginia B. Gallaudet and Miss E. H. Wisner.

The minutes of the last annual meeting and the special meeting read and approved.

The Treasurer's report was read and accepted.

Sister Ruth's report of money in her hands was received.

It was moved by Sister Isabelle that a thousand dollars be given Sister Ruth for traveling expenses and if necessary she should have a larger sum.

The following resolution was passed.

Resolved, that the Trustees of the Training School for Deaconesses be requested to give the Sisters of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd the room over the oratory for their permanent use.

Also that, as by the agreement made between the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd and the Trustees of the School for Deaconesses a suitable tablet is to be placed in the oratory commemorating their gift to the House, the Sisters be permitted to prepare and place said tablet.

Elizabeth H. Wisner, Sec.

Resolved, That as Sister Ruth is to be absent for some months all funds in her hands be given to the Treas. Mr. J. Hull Browning.

1911

The Trustees of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held their forty-first Annual Meeting on Friday Nov. 17th at 18 W. 12th St.

The following Trustees present—

Sister Ruth, Mr. J. Hull Browning, Miss E. H. Wisner

The Minutes of the last meeting read and accepted.

The Treasurer's report read and accepted.

The Officers and Trustees of the preceding year were re-elected.

The following resolutions were adopted.

Resolved, That the matter of applying the bequest of Mrs. William Alexander Smith to some purpose in the Oratory of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd at St. Faith's School for Deaconesses be left to Sister Ruth and Miss E. H. Wisner. And they are to instruct the Treasurer what amount he is to pay.

Resolved, That the Treasurer be authorized to pay such bills as are necessary for repairs at the School of the Good Shepherd sent him by Sister Ruth.

Resolved, That the Treasurer be authorized to pay Twelve dollars and a half to each of the Sisters.

Elizabeth H. Wisner, Sec.

1912

The Trustees of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held their forty-second Annual meeting on Thursday, Nov. 7th at 18 West 12th Street.

The following Trustees present—

Sister Ruth, Sister Isabel and Miss E. H. Wisner.

The minutes of last meeting read and accepted.

The officers and trustees of the preceding year were re-elected.

The following resolutions were adopted.

Resolved, that Sister Ruth be authorized to call upon the Treasurer for interest on the money left the Sisterhood for a scholarship as she has need for pupils unable to meet the full price of tuition.

Resolved that the Treasurer be requested to send Sister Ruth $500 for individual expenses.

Elizabeth H. Wisner, Sec.

1913

The Trustees of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held their forty-third Annual meeting on Thursday, Nov. 25th at 18 West 12th Street.

The following Trustees present—

Sister Ruth, Sister Isabel, Virginia B. Gallaudet and E. H. Wisner.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and accepted.

The Trustees and Officers of the preceding year were re-elected.

In the absence of the Treasurer Sister Ruth gave a report of the funds in her hands.

The meeting then adjourned.

Elizabeth H. Wisner, Sec.

1914

The Trustees of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held their forty-fourth Annual meeting on Thursday, Nov. 12th at 18 West 12th Street.

The following Trustees present—

Sister Ruth, Virginia B. Gallaudet and Elizabeth H. Wisner.

The minutes of the last meeting read and accepted.

The office of the Treasurer being vacant on the death of Mr. J. Hull Browning, Mrs. J. Hull Browning was elected to fill that office.

The other Trustees of the preceding year were re-elected.

It was resolved that the Trustees of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd send to Mrs. Browning an expression of sympathy in the death of Mr. Browning and of grateful appreciation of all he has done for the Sisterhood for many years.

The meeting then adjourned.

Elizabeth H. Wisner, Sec.

1915

The Trustees of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held their forty-fifth Annual Meeting on Saturday Nov. 6th at 18 West 12th St.

The following Trustees present—

Sister Ruth, Sister Isabel and Virginia B. Gallaudet.

As the Secretary Elizabeth H. Wisner was absent, V. B. Gallaudet acted in her place as sec. pro tem.

The minutes of the last meeting read and accepted.

The Trustees were all re-elected.

Sister Ruth reported that the School was paying for itself and had 12 Boarders and 19 day scholars. Primary full.

Sister Isabel reported several matters in connection with St. Faith's. As Mrs. Browning was not present there was no Treasurer's report. The meeting then adjourned.

V. B. Gallaudet
Sec. pro tem.

1916

The Trustees of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held their forty-sixth Annual Meeting on Nov. 13th at 18 W. 12th St.

The following Trustees present—Sister Ruth, Mrs. J. Hull Browning, Miss Gallaudet and Miss Wisner.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and the report of Treasurer received.

Sister Ruth reported the school at Asbury Park in good condition.

It was moved and carried that a note of thanks be sent to Miss Jenks for her valuable help at the school.

The officers and trustees of the preceding year were re-elected.

Elizabeth H. Wisner, Sec.

1917

The Trustees of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held their forty-seventh Annual Meeting on Nov. 27th at 18 W. 12th St. The following Trustees present—Sister Ruth, Mrs. J. Hull Browning, Miss Gallaudet and Miss Wisner.

The minutes of the last meeting read and approved, and the reports of the Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer were received.

The following resolution was adopted.

That the action taken at an informal meeting of three to lease the school of the Good Shepherd at Asbury Park to the Trustees of Ruth Hall for one year for five hundred dollars, with the privilege of renewing the lease for one year more at the same rate be satisfied.

Resolved that the request of Sister Isabel for a larger stipend be complied with and she will now have three hundred dollars a year.

The following Trustees elected—Sister Ruth, Mrs. J. Hull Browning, Miss Gallaudet, Mrs. Augustus Hand[24] and Miss Wisner.

Sister Ruth was elected president, Mrs. J. Hull Browning treasurer, Miss E. H. Wisner Secretary.

On motion the meeting adjourned.

Elizabeth H. Wisner, Sec.

[24] Susan Train Hand (April 4, 1872 — April 10, 1967) was born in Annapolis, Maryland, and came to New York in 1899 after her marriage to the lawyer and judge Augustus Noble Hand (1869-1954). She was the author of two privately-published books: *Letters of the Hand Family 1796-1912* (1923) and *John Trayne and Some of His Descendants* (1933). She is buried in Riverside Cemetery, Elizabethtown, Essex County, New York.

1918

The Trustees of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held their forty-eighth annual meeting on Nov. 23rd at 18 W. 12th St.

The following Trustees present—Mrs. J. Hull Browning, Mrs. Augustus Hand, Miss Gallaudet and Miss Wisner.

The minutes of the last meeting read and accepted. The Treasurer's report read and accepted. And the report of the Assistant Secretary received and accepted.

The officers and trustees of the preceding year were re-elected.

The following resolution was adopted.

Resolved that a copy of the written statement giving an account of Dr. Huntington's request that no altar should be placed in the Memorial Oratory of the Good Shepherd be given to the Secretary of the New York Training School for Deaconesses and the original kept in the deposit box of the Trustees of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd.

On motion the meeting adjourned.

Elizabeth H. Wisner, Sec.

1919

The Trustees of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held their forty-ninth Annual Meeting on November 26th at 18 W. 12th St.

The following Trustees present—Mrs. J. Hull Browning, Mrs. Augustus N. Hand, Miss Virginia Gallaudet, Miss E. H. Wisner.

The minutes of the last meeting read and approved and the treasurer's and assistant treasurer's reports received and accepted.

The following resolution was adopted.

Resolved that Miss Jenckes be requested in Sister Ruth's name to close the account in the Guaranty Trust Company and sent the amount now there to the Treasurer, Mrs. J. Hull Browning.

And be it further resolved that the Treasurer, Mrs. Browning thereupon pay to Miss Jenckes five hundred dollars ($500) and thereafter such amount as may be needed in the case of Sister Ruth.

On motion the meeting adjourned.

Elizabeth H. Wisner, Sec.

1920[25]

The Trustees of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held their fiftieth annual meeting on Oct. 20th at 18 W. 12th St.

The following Trustees present, Mrs. A. N. Hand, Miss Virginia Gallaudet and Miss E. H. Wisner.

Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

Miss Gallaudet was elected President and Miss Jenckes and Mrs. Hand Trustees, Miss Wisner Secretary.

It was resolved that the furniture formerly in the School of the Good Shepherd now in possession of Miss Jenckes be given to her.

Resolved that $5000 of the sum now in Savings Bank account of Sister Ruth be given to endow a half scholarship in memory of Sister Ruth. The Trustees desire to express their deep appreciation of Sister Ruth's life of devoted service and to extend to Miss Jenckes their sympathy in her loss and gratitude for the loving care which she took of Sister Ruth throughout the many years of failing health.

The $443.62 remaining in savings fund to be given to Miss Kinney.

Elizabeth H. Wisner, Sec.

[25] The *Alumnae Bulletin* of the NYTSD noted in November 1920 that "Deaconess Boyd reminded us that by the death of Sister Ruth [Buffington] a house at Asbury Park reverted to the Deaconess School and might be acquired for a permanent home." (p. 7)

A meeting of the Trustees of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd was held on April 13th at 18 West 12th St.

The following resolution was passed.

Resolved that the Trustees of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd hereby agree to deposit their bonds of the New York and Richmond Gas Company with all coupons attached included the Nov. 1920 coupons with the Guarantee Trust Co. under agreement with said company. Certificate of deposit to be received for deposited bonds and sent to Miss Virginia B. Gallaudet, President of the Board of Trustees.

It was also resolved that Miss Gallaudet and Mrs. A. N. Hand be authorized to open the safe-deposit box.

Miss Adeline A. Jenckes was elected Assistant Treasurer.

The Following Trustees were present—Miss Gallaudet, Mrs. A. N. Hand, Miss Jenckes, Miss Wisner.

E. H. Wisner, Sec.

The Trustees of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd held their fifty-first Annual Meeting on October 22nd, 1921 at 18 W. 12th Street.

The following Trustees present—Mrs. J. Hull Browning, Mrs. A. N. Hand, Miss Gallaudet, Miss A. Jenckes and Miss Wisner.

The Minutes of the last meeting read and approved.

The Treasurer's Report read and accepted.

The Officers and Trustees of the preceding year were re-elected.

On motion duly made and seconded, Resolved That the Secretary be authorized to purchase in the name of the Trustees a seal circular inform bearing the words "Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd."

After hearing the report presented by Miss Jenckes regarding the sale of the House of the Good Shepherd at Asbury Park, New Jersey, it was on motion made by Mrs. J. Hull Browning and seconded by Miss Gallaudet

Resolved: That the proposed sale of the House of the Good Shepherd, No. 508 First Avenue, Asbury Park, N.J., to the Trustees of Ruth Hall, at the price of $20,000, be and the same hereby is authorized, and that the President and Secretary of this Society, are authorized to execute and deliver a proper deed of conveyance in the name of the Sisterhood, to attach the corporate seal thereto, and likewise to execute any and all other documents and make any application which may be necessary or proper to carry out said sale.

Mrs. Browning submitted a proposed agreement between this corporation and the New York Training School for Deaconesses, providing substantially that this corporation should turn over all its property to the Training School in consideration of the Training School's agreeing to supply Sister Isabel with her present stipend of $300 annually, such stipend to be increased, if reasonably necessary to maintain her present style of living during the remainder of her life, and on motion of Miss Jenks, it was

Resolved: That the officers of this corporation be and they hereby are authorized and directed to execute the proposed agreement and deliver the same to the Training School upon receiving the counterpart properly executed by the Training School and

endorsed with the approval and consent of Sister Isabel, and that the officers be and they hereby are further authorized and directed to execute and deliver all additional instruments necessary or proper to carry out the terms of the said agreement; and it was

Further resolved: That the Secretary spread a copy of the said agreement upon the minutes of this meeting or properly earmark a copy thereof and file the same with the records of the corporation.

The Officers and Trustees of the previous year were re-elected.

Elizabeth H. Wisner
Secretary

1922

A Special Meeting of the Trustees of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd was held March 27th 1922 at 18 W. 12th St.

The following Trustees present—

Mrs. J. Hull Browning

Mrs. A. N. Hand

Miss Gallaudet

Miss Jenckes

Miss Wisner

The Treasurer's report read and accepted.

The following resolutions were duly proposed and carried.

That all the memorials belonging to the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd be given to the Altar Guild.

That the Treasurer, Mrs. J. Hull Browning, be directed to pay to the Treasurer of the New York Training School for Deaconesses, Mr. W. P. Bliss, the securities and all cash balance belonging to the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd and to execute all transfers of stock.

On motion the meeting adjourned.

Elizabeth H. Wisner, Sec.

Appendix I.
Certificate of Incorporation of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd

State of New York
City and County of New York

We the subscribers being persons of full age and citizens of the United States and of this State and being desirous to associate ourselves for the purposes hereinafter mentioned and to be incorporated as a society according to the provisions of the act of the legislature of this State entitled "An act for the incorporation of benevolent, charitable, scientific and missionary societies," passed April 12th 1848 and the several acts amendatory thereof do hereby certify as follows.

1. The name or title by which the said society shall be known in law is "The Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd."

2. The particular business and objects of the said society are to promote and carry on spiritual and corporal works of mercy through an organization of Christian women, under the direction of the Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Diocese of New York, such business to be conducted in the county of New York.

3. The number of trustees to manage such society shall be five and Ellen Hulme, Elizabeth G. Dawson, Helen H. Smith, Elizabeth H. Wismer and Euphemia Van Rensselaer shall be the trustees of such society for the first year of its existence.

In Witness whereof, we have hereunto subscribed our names this twenty-seventh day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand, eight hundred and seventy one.

Ellen Hulme
Elizabeth G. Dawson
Helen H. Smith

Appendix II.
Objects of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd.[26]

1. This Association shall be called "The Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd in the City and Diocese of New York."

2. Its object shall be to minister to the poor, the sick, the homeless, and the outcast, and to care for little children.

3. The Sisterhood shall be under the control of the Bishop of the Diocese, who shall be its head, and appoint its pastor.

4. The Sisterhood shall embrace five classes: Sisters, Assistants, Probationers, Visitors, and Associates, over all of whom the Presiding Sister shall have control.

The Associates shall be those who, residing in their own families, are able to give only a portion of their time each week or year to the work. They are expected to offer daily the prayer for the Sisterhood furnished to them.

The Visitors shall be those who wish to become Probationers, or those who desire to give themselves to the work for a certain time residing with the Sisters during this time.

The Probationers shall be those who having passed six months as Visitors, and then desiring to give themselves wholly to the work, and being approved by the Presiding Sister, shall assume the dress, and be received by the Pastor.

The Assistants shall be those who wish to devote themselves to work for Christ, but whose lives here have been so ordered that they are not fitted for the position of a full Sister. They shall be Probationers two years, and then, if approved by the Presiding Sister, and the Pastor, shall be received by the Pastor and take the name of Sister.

The Sisters shall be those, who having passed a probation of two years, and still desiring to give themselves wholly to the work, and being approved by the Presiding Sister, Pastor, and Bishop, shall then be received by the Bishop, and be known as Sisters.

5. Whenever the "Sisters' Fund" will permit, each Sister shall receive the sum of $150 each year, for personal expenses. Each Assistant shall receive the sum of $100 each year for the same purpose.

The Presiding Sister shall be allowed discretion as to the support of the other classes, when necessary.

6. No rule shall be made by the Presiding Sister without the approval of the Pastor and Bishop.

If a majority of Sisters object to any rule, they may appeal to the Bishop, who shall annul it if he thinks best.

7. The Presiding Sister shall arrange all the work, but no new work shall be undertaken without the approval of the Pastor and Bishop.

8. The head of each House shall have the direction and control of the work, and of those engaged in it, subject only to the control of the Presiding Sister.

9. The Presiding Sister shall see that each worker has a month each year for recreation.

10. Family ties being of the most sacred obligation, any Sister may leave the work of the Sisterhood at any time that family duties require it. In such case, if she desires to

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[26] Henry Codman Potter, *Sisterhoods and Deaconesses at Home and Abroad* (New York: E.P. Dutton, 1873), pp. 233-238.

continue a Sister, she may do so, with the consent of the Presiding Sister and Pastor, returning to the work of the Sisterhood when Providence permits. But while attending to duties in, or for her family, she shall not receive the Sisters' support.

11. A Sister wishing to withdraw from the Sisterhood, shall give written notice thereof, with the reasons, to the Presiding Sister, who shall give this notice, with her own judgment in the case, also in writing, to the Bishop. The Bishop's formal sanction shall be an honorable discharge from the Sisterhood.

But that due provision may be made for the work in which she has been engaged, such withdrawal shall not take place in less than two months after the notice has been given, unless by special consent of the Presiding Sister.

12. An Assistant may withdraw in the same manner, the Pastor taking the place of the Bishop.

13. A Probationer may withdraw at anytime by giving due notice to the Presiding Sister and the Pastor.

14. With the consent of the Pastor, the Presiding Sister may, for cause, request a Probationer to withdraw at any time.

15. Probationers must not be over forty nor under twenty-one years of age, without the special consent of the Presiding Sister.

16. Regulations respecting dress, and the social ordering of the household, shall, for the present, be left entirely to the Presiding Sister, and shall not be embraced within the permanent rule, under a year's trial.

17. In case of the death or resignation of the Presiding Sister, the Sisters, after receiving the Holy Communion at the hands of their Pastor, shall give in their votes, for not less than two and not more than three names, from which the Bishop, or in case of a vacancy in the Episcopate, the Pastor, shall choose one who shall be Presiding Sister.

Until this appointment has been made, the Sister first in order of reception shall discharge the duties of the Presiding Sister.

Appendix III.
A Form for the Setting Apart of Deaconesses in the Diocese of New York.[27]

¶ *All things being in readiness, a Priest shall present to the Bishop sitting in his chair, near to the Holy Table, such as are to be set apart as Deaconesses, saying*:

REVEREND Father in God, I present unto you these women [*or* this woman], to be set apart to the office and work of Deaconess.

The Bishop.

Declare, we pray you, unto those who are here gathered what the office and work of a Deaconess are.

¶ *Then shall the Priest, addressing the People, say:*

DEAR beloved, it is written in the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, that while the Lord Jesus was going about through cities and villages, preaching and showing the glad tidings of the kingdom of God, there were women not a few which ministered unto him of their substance. Likewise, after he was crucified (as the same Evangelist hath elsewhere told us), the women which came with him from Galilee were emboldened to follow after them that carried his body to the burial, and to prepare spices and ointments, Also that it is agreeable to the mind of Christ that women should do him service by offices of loving kindness, we gather from St. Paul, who saith to the Philippians, Help those women which labored with me in the Gospel. And who also commendeth unto the Romans, one Phebe; a Deaconess of the Church which was at Cenchrea.

Touching the duty of women set apart to this office and ministry, the Canons of the Church affirm that it is to assist the Minister in the care of the poor and sick, in the religious training of the young and others, and in the work of moral reformation. That *they* may be duly appointed to such service, *have these women* come hither.

¶ *Then shall the Bishop say as followeth*:

BELOVED, we have good confidence that *they* who *are* now presented to be set apart to the office of Deaconess *are* competent thereto, for it hath been so certified unto us, as the Canons require, by them whose word we trust. Nevertheless, if there be any who can allege aught on account of which it is inexpedient that *these persons* be so set apart, let protest be now made openly and before all men.

¶ *If no good reason be alleged by any why the service should not proceed, then shall the Bishop say*:

Let thy merciful kindness, O Lord, be upon us.

Answer. Like as we do put our trust in thee.

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[27] New York: no publisher, 1890.

¶ *Then, all kneeling down, the Bishop shall say:*

Unto thee lift we up our eyes;
Answer. O Thou that dwellest in the heavens.
Bishop. As the eyes of servants look unto the hand of their masters;
Answer. And as the eyes of a maiden unto the hand of her mistress;
Bishop. Even so our eyes wait upon thee, O Lord;
Answer. Until thou have mercy upon us.
Bishop. O Lord, have mercy upon us.
Answer. Have mercy upon us.
Bishop. O Lord, let thy mercy lighten upon us;
Answer. As our trust is in thee.

The Bishop.

O ETERNAL God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Creator of man and woman; who didst anoint with the Spirit, Miriam and Deborah and Anna and Huldah; who didst not disdain that thine only begotten Son should be born of a woman; who, also, in the tabernacle of the testimony and in the temple, didst ordain women to be keepers of thy holy gates; Look mercifully, we beseech thee, upon *these* thy *servants*, about to be set apart to the office and work of Deaconess. Protect them in the way wherein they go, and grant that in singleness of purpose and with a willing mind *they* may worthily accomplish the task committed to *them*, to thy glory and to the praise of thy Christ, to whom with thee, O Father, and thee, O Holy Ghost, be glory and worship for ever and ever. *Amen.*

¶ *Then shall he add:*

O magnify the Lord with me.
Answer. And let us exalt his name together.

¶ *Then, all standing up, shall be said:*

We will praise thy name, O God, with a song.
Answer. And magnify it with thanksgiving.
Bishop. O give thanks unto the God of heaven.
Answer. For his mercy endureth forever.
Bishop. O give thanks unto the Lord of Lords.
Answer. For his mercy endureth forever.

¶ *Then shall be sung or said the Hymn called* Magnificat, *as followeth:*

Magnificat. St. Luke i. 46.

MY soul doth magnify the Lord: and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
For he hath regarded: the lowliness of his handmaiden.

For behold, from henceforth: all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me: and holy is his Name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him: throughout all generations.
He hath showed strength with his arm: he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat; and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things: and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel: as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed, for ever.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

¶ *Then shall the Bishop ask of them the three following questions, to which each candidate shall answer for herself.*

The Bishop.

HAVE you well considered in your own mind your purpose to serve God in this office and ministry?
Answer. I have so considered it.

The Bishop.

WILL you endeavor, so long as you shall hold this office, faithfully to fulfill the duties of the same without fickleness or waywardness?
Answer. I will.

The Bishop.

WILL you diligently ask of God the grace to enable you to cling to this endeavor, and to make this purpose good?
Answer. I will.

¶ *Then the Bishop, laying his hands severally upon the head of every one of them kneeling before him, shall say:*

TAKE thou authority to exercise the office of a Deaconess in the Church of God, whereunto thou art now set apart.
Blessed be thou of the Lord, my daughter. The Lord recompense thy work, and a full reward be given thee of the Lord God of Israel, under whose wings thou art come to trust. Amen.

The Bishop.
The Lord be with you.
Answer. And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

¶ *Then, all kneeling down, the Bishop shall say these Prayers following.*

For the Deaconesses newly set apart:

O GOD, who, in thy holy Word, dost commend above all goodly apparel the ornament of a quiet spirit; Adorn, we beseech thee, *these* thy *servants*, with the meekness and the gentleness of Christ. Preserve *them* alike from faithless fears and from unreasonable desires, that with a steadfast heart and settled purpose *they* may run the way of thy commandments, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

For such as are in Need and Necessity:

O GOD, Almighty and merciful, who healest those that are broken in heart, and turnest the sadness of the sorrowful to joy; Let thy fatherly goodness be upon all that thou hast made, Especially we beseech thee to remember in pity such as are destitute, homeless, or forgotten of their fellow-men. Bless the congregation of thy poor. Uplift those who are cast down. Mightily befriend innocent sufferers, and sanctify to them the endurance of their wrongs. Cheer with hope all discouraged and unhappy people, and by thy heavenly grace preserve from falling those whose penury tempteth them to sin; though they be troubled on every side, suffer them not to be distressed; though they be perplexed, save them from despair. Grant this, O Lord, for the love of him who for our sakes became poor, thy Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

For final Blessedness.

ALMIGHTY and eternal God, to whom is never any prayer made without hope of mercy; Bow thine ear, we beseech thee, to our supplications, and in the heavenly city cause us to be united with thy faithful servants, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Rom. xv: 13.

THE God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, that we may abound in hope, through our Lord Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Authorization.

The above FORM FOR THE SETTING APART OF DEACONESSES is hereby authorized, and set forth for use in the Diocese of New York in accordance with the Provisions of Title I., Canon 10, of the Digest.

H. C. POTTER,
Bishop of New York.
Feast of the Annunciation: MDCCCXC.

Diocese of New-York.

We, whose names are here underwritten, testify from our personal knowledge and belief that

Isabel F. Perry

is a person possessing such gifts and characteristics as, in our judgment, fit her for usefulness as a Deaconess in the work of the Care of the sick poor & the religious training of the young. that she is attached to the doctrine, discipline, and worship of the Protestant Episcopal Church; that she is a communicant of the same, in good standing, of good conversation, blameless life and manners; and, moreover, that she is a person of sound bodily health and of good judgment.

Thomas Gallaudet
Rector Emeritus of St. Matthew's Church, N. Y.

Alex. James Miller
Rector of Trinity Church, Asbury Park, N.J.

John Humphreys Bayonne N.J.

Alfred A Lawton do.

G W Yates do.

Chas Hitchcock do

Geo F Fox do

Geo C. Seymour do.

Emily Robinson

Kate Aiken Shepard.

Lillian A. Yeo

Jessie Dobson.

Anna M. Stilwell

Mrs George C. Seymour

New York, 18

Diocese of New-York.

We, whose names are here underwritten, testify from our personal knowledge and belief that

Ella M. Taylor

is a person possessing such gifts and characteristics as, in our judgment, fit her for usefulness as a Deaconess in the work of .....

that she is attached to the doctrine, discipline, and worship of the Protestant Episcopal Church; that she is a communicant of the same, in good standing, of good conversation, blameless life and manners; and, moreover, that she is a person of sound bodily health and of good judgment.

Reese F. Alsop
Rector St Ann's Ch. Brooklyn

W. R. Huntington.

Albert R. Bunn.

Sister Katharine
Com. of the Holy Cross

Mary Morrison Smith
St Anne's Church

Henry T. Scudder

N. Marshall Harrison.

Mary L. Van Ingen.

Sister Constance Priest

Mary de Booij Ingram M.D.

Sister Irene C.S.J.E.

Henry C. Swentzel.

New York, ... 18.....

Diocese of New-York.

We, whose names are here underwritten, testify from our personal knowledge and belief that

Ruth Moore Buffington

is a person possessing such gifts and characteristics as, in our judgment, fit her for usefulness as a Deaconess in the work of ~~the Care of the poor & sick & the religious training of the young~~, that she is attached to the doctrine, discipline, and worship of the Protestant Episcopal Church; that she is a communicant of the same, in good standing, of good conversation, blameless life and manners; and, moreover, that she is a person of sound bodily health and of good judgment.

Thomas Gallaudet
Rector Emeritus of St. Matthew's Church N.Y.

Jacob LeRoy
Rector S. Martin-in-the-Fields, Mount Airy Heights, Philadelphia, Pa.

Charles Wimer

Elizabeth H. Wisner

Mary A. E. Twing

Estelle Brunings

Wm Alex Smith

Ellen Hornor

Sallie S. Houston

Gertrude Houston Brodhead

Geo Woodward M.D.

Samuel Frederic Houston

Geo R Bonnell

Sallie D. Houston Henry

New York, ... 18 .....

Deaconess Isabel Perry, last member of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd.

"Those of the Alumnae who knew Sister Isabel, or were so fortunate as to be in the School at the time when she was living there, will be glad to share this letter from her in her new home. Sister Isabel is the only one remaining of the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd, and she has been in poor health for many years and has lately been confined to her chair because of severe rheumatism.

> I was so glad to have your letter which was forwarded to me here, for we now live at Pasadena. We spent six happy years in San Diego although I was far from well most of the time, and still am. The doctor thought it best to try a change of air and altitude for San Diego is damp, and has been especially so this last summer. Now we are twenty-seven miles inland and nearly one thousand feet in altitude and are living in the Casa Loma apartments—beautiful Spanish apartments. I have never

lived in such lovely surroundings. For the last two years my sister and I have been studying Spanish and find it a great pleasure to know something of such a beautiful tongue. I can speak quite fluently now and we talk together every day in Spanish, but I specially enjoy reading it. Of course, Spanish is spoken a great deal in San Diego where we were only fifteen miles from the Mexican Line, but all through Southern California it is used more or less and the houses, streets and parks have Spanish names. And there are the buildings—so many in the Mission style. The early Fathers who came up with the Spanish army were Franciscans, and Serra, their beloved leader will never be forgotten. The first Mission was started at San Diego and from thence north, as far as Monterey, they were a day's journey apart—twenty-one in all. Their history is most interesting. The Indians were of a very low type and covered their bodies with mud to keep warm, and what Serra did for them was marvellous—he even learned how to sew in order to teach the women. Most of the Mission buildings are now in ruins but these ruins give a distinct charm to Southern California nevertheless. The Mission at Santa Barbara is the only one which stands perfect, but a number are being restored somewhat, and one finds the underground passage to the well used by the Fathers when in danger from the Indians. I do love California—it certainly has "charm," and Pasadena where we are now, is a beautiful city. But I loved San Diego the best and found it hard to leave though I feel certain that it was better to do so.

Please forgive my poor writing—it was done with a very lame hand! Give my love to all I know.[28]

[28] Alumnae Bulletin, Nov. 1923, Number XVIII.